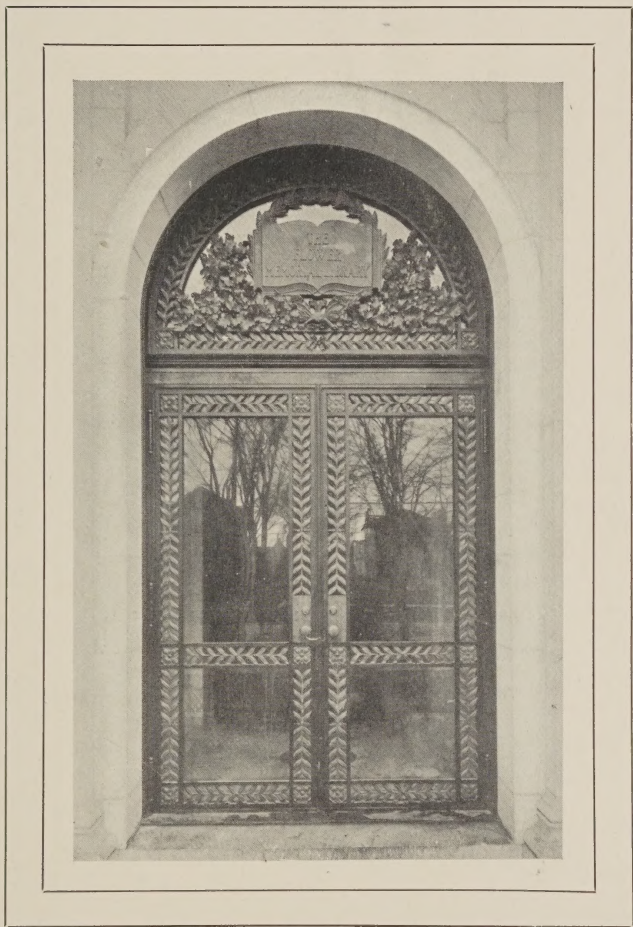




The
Flower Memorial
Library
—
Watertown
New York

AN ILLUSTRATED SOUVENIR OF THE
ROSWELL P. FLOWER MEMORIAL
LIBRARY WATERTOWN NEW YORK



ISSUED BY
HUNGERFORD-HOLBROOK CO.
WATERTOWN, N. Y.

ERECTED BY MRS. EMMA FLOWER TAYLOR
IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER,
EX-GOVERNOR FLOWER

COST OF BUILDING WITH DECORATIONS, \$250,000.
CORNER-STONE LAID JULY 11, 1903, BY MRS. TAYLOR,
WITH PRAYER BY REV. ARCHDEACON JOINER
AND ADDRESS BY MR. S. F. BAGG.

BUILDING COMPLETED AND PRESENTED
TO THE CITY OF WATERTOWN NOVEMBER 10, 1904.

ARCHITECTS:
ORCHARD, LANSING & JORALEMON

SUPERVISING ARCHITECT:
MR. A. F. LANSING

ARTIST-ARCHITECT:
MR. CHARLES ROLLINSON LAMB

INTERIOR DECORATORS:
J. & R. LAMB, NEW YORK

*The publishers wish to acknowledge their thanks to The Craftsman of
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THE FLOWER
MEMORIAL
LIBRARY

The Watertown Library

THE stately Ionic lines of the beautiful Watertown Library encompass a building that is the realization of an idea that was valiantly fought for by the best citizens of Watertown for many years.

The press and pulpit united in the effort to secure a library building in the city. Patriotic and civic organizations took up the matter with public spirited citizens and every effort was exerted to make the movement a success. When the movement was under way, the library became a possibility through the munificence of Mrs. Emma Flower Taylor.

Her generous offer to furnish the City of Watertown with a library building was accepted with gratitude. On April 8, 1901, a public meeting expressed the feeling of the community in the following resolution: "At a mass meeting of the citizens of Watertown, held in the City Opera House to-night, presided over by Mayor Porter, and addressed by clergymen of various denominations and prominent citizens, your proposition for a library was unanimously accepted, with grateful appreciation."

The proper committees were appointed, competition instituted, and the commission for the building placed in the hands of the successful competitive architects, Orchard, Lansing and Joralemon.

The structure is in the Grecian style of architecture, having many Roman features adapted to modern requirements. It is massive and dignified, and characteristic of the man in whose memory it is built, and whose generosity can never be forgotten by the citizens of Watertown. The work has been developed under the watchful care of Mr. A. F. Lansing, who added to professional enthusiasm the interest of a private citizen. Mr. Lansing is a resident of Watertown, one whose family has been identified with the development of the city, to which development this generous donation of Mrs. Taylor contributes the most important civic example.

Decoration of the Library

After the form of the building had been determined upon, the cornerstone laid, and the foundations commenced, the donor, desiring to have the building as important artistically as it was architecturally, invited Mr. Charles R. Lamb, of New York, to suggest a scheme for the enrichment of the entire interior. No one could have brought to this work a richer experience. Beside the decoration of many religious, civic and private buildings, one of the most notable of which was the Chapel at Cornell University, in which he designed the entire embellishment of the



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ROTUNDA

SHOWING PORTRAIT BUST OF EX-GOVERNOR FLOWER

J. SCOTT HARTLEY
SCULPTOR

CHARLES R. LAMB
ARTIST-ARCHITECT

"Sage" Memorial, Mr. Lamb achieved distinction in the arrangement of one of the most important exhibitions of sculpture, given under the auspices of the National Sculpture Society. At a later date he showed the country at large what could be accomplished by associated ef-



"RELIGION"

ONE OF EIGHT FIGURES IN DOME

fort in the Dewey Arch, of which he was the architect, erected by New York for the return of the victorious navy, and which, since that demonstration, has stood as a concrete example of what can be accomplished by a proper centralization of artistic effort.

It is true that, in the Memorial Library, form was not the only problem, or sculpture the only medium of expression; but the principles developed in



LITERATURE
NORTH VIEW
FREDERICK S. LAMB

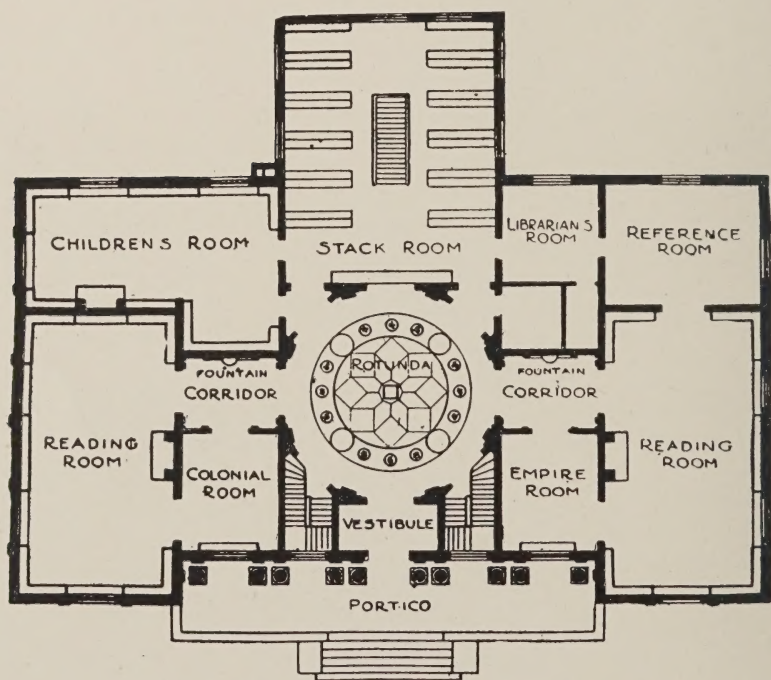


LITERATURE
SOUTH VIEW
FREDERICK S. LAMB

these previous experiments were equally applicable to the use of color, whether as mosaic, or as mural decoration. At the dedication of the building, the designer thus formulated his creed :

"Nature is the oldest historian, but in man's efforts to record the progress of the ages, the artist is distinctly the earliest of all historians ; for, before letters were, the artist drew, the sculptor carved, and the architect built. The artist, the historian of the earliest times, the inventor of the picture forms which afterwards became stenographically the alphabet of later civilization, and the type of the modern printing press (in spite of the great development of the hieroglyphics which we now call books), visualizes in his picture writings those things, those ideas, those ideals which the written, or the spoken, word but suggests indefinitely. It is therefore fitting that Art should be asked to co-operate with Architecture in the creation of a library such as this Memorial, and the co-operation of the Arts with Literature is therefore most appropriate."

Mr. Lamb's experience, covering as it has such a wide field of artistic endeavor, prompted him to advocate distinct changes in the interior, in the interest of a more monumental effect. Thus the rotunda was enlarged, and



PLAN OF
MAIN FLOOR



ROTUNDA
LOOKING NORTH



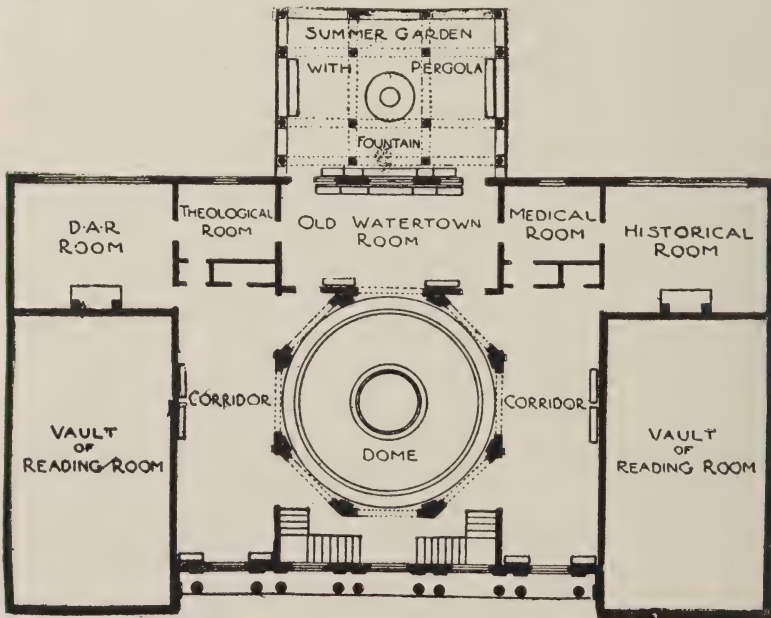
CORRIDORS
LOOKING NORTH

the dome elevated to the heroic proportions of a full Roman, classic building.

Mr. Lamb submitted a most comprehensive scheme for the entire treatment of the interior in color, mosaic, stained glass, mural painting, bronze, etc., which was accepted by the donor and the building committee, and the responsibility was placed upon his shoulders, as he in his statement said he would wish to be responsible for "everything one saw from the moment he entered the building throughout the entire interior."

The Interior of The Library

ON entering the Library, the visitor, after passing through the artistic doorway of wrought iron, bronze and glass, and the mosaic vestibule, with its welcome "Salve" and farewell "Vale" on either side of the Seal of Watertown, finds himself within the central rotunda with its magnificent combination of marble and color. The Stack Room is directly opposite the entrance after passing through the rotunda, which is flanked on either side by the corridors. The corridors lead to the North and South Reading Rooms and are finished in marble and wood with accents of color decorations. The marble flooring, relieved under the dome by the signs of the Zodiac, as bronze inserts in the pavement, extends along the corridors, and into the main reading rooms. It adds a sense of stability not usually found in buildings of this character.



PLAN OF
MEZZANINE
FLOOR



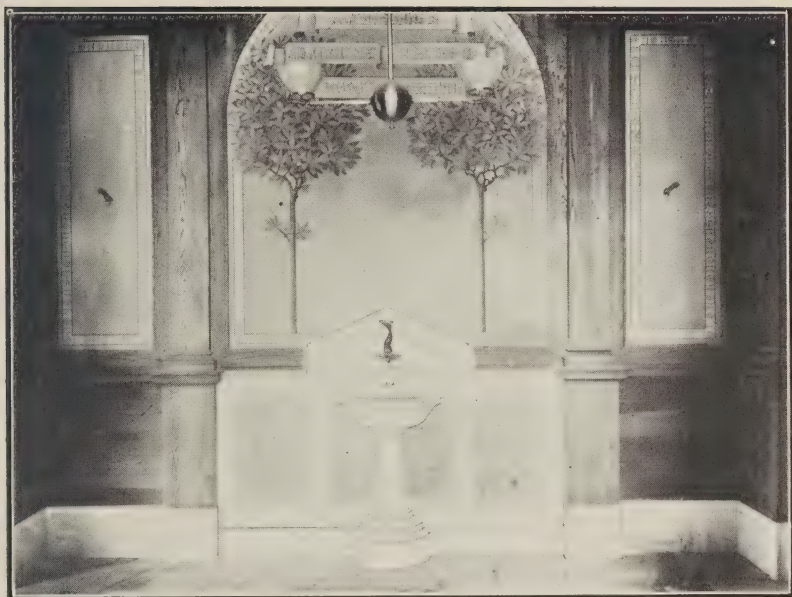
NORTH
READING ROOM



MURAL PAINTING "THE OPEN BOOK"
NORTH READING ROOM
ELLA CONDIE LAMB

The North Reading Room

THE North Reading Room is large and inviting, with a panelled ceiling in rich relief. The finish is, in the main, of wood, low and quiet in tone. Book-shelves at convenient heights wainscote the walls, while the main points are accented with constructive or color decoration. The interesting painting of the "Open Book" by Ella Condie Lamb, is located in this room. The picture shows a seated figure of the mother surrounded by her children. The color scheme and subject of this picture have received the attention of art critics throughout the country. The picture, with its decorative composition, forms a fitting focus for the elaborate design. In the spandrel above, and repeated at the opposite end of the room, is a rich foli-



DETAIL OF
NORTH AND
SOUTH
CORRIDORS



MANTEL IN
SOUTH
READING ROOM

ated treatment, with tablets bearing the names of the great writers from classic to modern times. As a whole, it is a fitting interpretation of the quotation that knowledge is power and the only good. The color scheme in the room is rich and restful. An added touch of comfort is given in an important fireplace of marble, enriched with mosaic; the whole effect, however, is so carefully worked out by the designer, that the seeker after knowledge finds rest and comfort in his books, rather than a distraction.

TEXTS UNDER PEDIMENTS.

WEST WALL.
"Live and Learn."

NORTH WALL.

1. "Read, mark and inwardly digest." 2. "Wisdom is the principal thing."

SOUTH WALL.

1. "A blessed companion is a book." 2. "Reading maketh a full man."

EAST WALL.

"Knowledge is the only good."

MURAL PAINTING

"The Open Book."—Ella Condie Lamb.

Mantel—"Knowledge is Power."

AUTHORS' NAMES ON END WALLS

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. St. Paul | 2. Plato | 3. Horace | 4. Goethe |
| 5. Voltaire | 6. Chaucer | 7. Irving | |
| 1. Isaiah | 2. Thucydides | 3. Livy | 4. Schiller |
| 5. Hugo | 6. Macauley | 7. Emerson | |

The South Reading Room

THIS room, located at the opposite end of the building, is a counterpart in size and architectural treatment of the North Reading Room. The color scheme of this room is somewhat different. Here the great spandrels, verging to blues and greens, are filled with the conventional treatment of the vine, upon which are placed the bookmarks of the early printers.

Mantel—"Study the watchword of fame."

TEXTS UNDER PEDIMENTS.

NORTH WALL.

1. "Mind is the great lever of all things." 2. "No man is born wise."

SOUTH WALL.

1. "In books is the soul of the past." 2. "The sweet serenity of books."

EAST WALL.

"Knowledge is the fountain of human liberty."

WEST WALL.

"The true university is a collection of books."



MEZZANINE
FLOOR
LOOKING ACROSS
ROTUNDA



ONE OF
CONVERSATION
ROOMS

Famous Old Printers in South Reading Room

Charles Leen,	Antwerp, 1487-1488.
William Wosterman,	Antwerp, 1500-1544.
Jacob Stadelberger,	Heidelberg, 1513-1517.
Thielman Kerver,	Paris, 1497-1522.
Peter Short,	London, 1585-1650.
William Caxton,	Westminster, 1476-1491.
Voster Simon,	Paris, 1480-1520.
Mantius Aldus,	Venice, 1450-1515.
Lawrence Andrews,	London, 1499-1527.
Valentine Schumann,	Leipzig, 1502-1534.
Lucantonio Giunta,	Venice, 1500.
Widow Orwin,	London, 1596.
John Sholar,	Oxford, 1512-1518.
Mathis Van der Goes,	Antwerp, 1472-1494.
Jacob de Breda,	Demeter, 1486-1519.
Andrew Hester,	
Richard Grafton,	London, 1537-1583.

The Children's Room.

One of the novel and most interesting features of this Library is the Children's Room, set apart for the special use and pleasure of the young people by Mrs. Taylor in loving commemoration of her eldest son, dead in infancy. His name and the dates of his brief life are recorded on the bronze tablet set high on the North wall over the fire-place, and on either side are the portraits of his younger brother and sister, bearing Spring flowers as in tribute to his memory. These graceful figures were painted by Mrs. Ella Condie Lamb. The room is very well arranged for its purpose, the interior furnishing being of the required simplicity and practicableness, and the color scheme of the whole pleasant and harmonious and not too high in accent nor too ornate to conflict with this directness of purpose. The books of the library are lined up in open stacks along the walls, listed in a card catalogue, at the free disposal of any child, and the abundant light and the comfortable tables and chairs offer their hospitality to every comer.

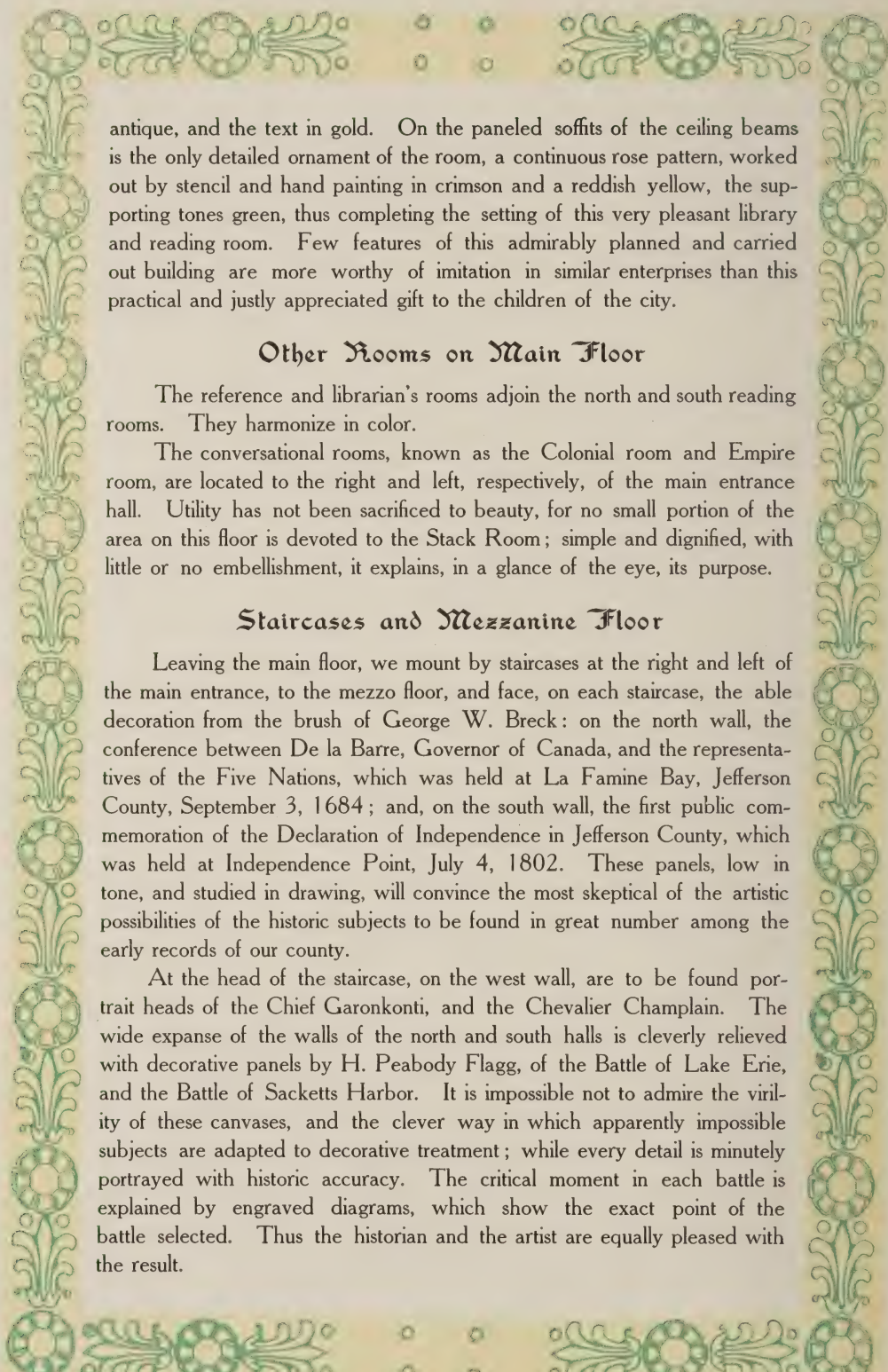
For the general color effect of the room, Mr. Lamb selected a handsome bluish-green, to which all the woodwork, the Volkmar tiles of the chimney-piece, the pressed bricks of the walls, and even the metal work, contribute in varying tones. The commemorative bronze tablet is of a verd



MEMORIAL
CHILDREN'S
ROOM



MANTEL
CHILDREN'S ROOM
ELEANOR CLARKE



antique, and the text in gold. On the paneled soffits of the ceiling beams is the only detailed ornament of the room, a continuous rose pattern, worked out by stencil and hand painting in crimson and a reddish yellow, the supporting tones green, thus completing the setting of this very pleasant library and reading room. Few features of this admirably planned and carried out building are more worthy of imitation in similar enterprises than this practical and justly appreciated gift to the children of the city.

Other Rooms on Main Floor

The reference and librarian's rooms adjoin the north and south reading rooms. They harmonize in color.

The conversational rooms, known as the Colonial room and Empire room, are located to the right and left, respectively, of the main entrance hall. Utility has not been sacrificed to beauty, for no small portion of the area on this floor is devoted to the Stack Room; simple and dignified, with little or no embellishment, it explains, in a glance of the eye, its purpose.

Staircases and Mezzanine Floor

Leaving the main floor, we mount by staircases at the right and left of the main entrance, to the mezzo floor, and face, on each staircase, the able decoration from the brush of George W. Breck: on the north wall, the conference between De la Barre, Governor of Canada, and the representatives of the Five Nations, which was held at La Famine Bay, Jefferson County, September 3, 1684; and, on the south wall, the first public commemoration of the Declaration of Independence in Jefferson County, which was held at Independence Point, July 4, 1802. These panels, low in tone, and studied in drawing, will convince the most skeptical of the artistic possibilities of the historic subjects to be found in great number among the early records of our county.

At the head of the staircase, on the west wall, are to be found portrait heads of the Chief Garonkonti, and the Chevalier Champlain. The wide expanse of the walls of the north and south halls is cleverly relieved with decorative panels by H. Peabody Flagg, of the Battle of Lake Erie, and the Battle of Sacketts Harbor. It is impossible not to admire the virility of these canvases, and the clever way in which apparently impossible subjects are adapted to decorative treatment; while every detail is minutely portrayed with historic accuracy. The critical moment in each battle is explained by engraved diagrams, which show the exact point of the battle selected. Thus the historian and the artist are equally pleased with the result.



MURAL PAINTING, NORTH STAIRCASE HALL

GEORGE W. BRECK

A conference between De La Barre, Governor of Canada, and the representatives of the Five Nations was held at La Famine Bay, Jefferson County, September 3, 1684. The French desired to conclude a treaty of alliance with the Indians, but were unable to do so.

Smaller Rooms

The north hall leads to the room dedicated to the Daughters of the American Revolution. The spirit of "Words pass as wind, but when great deeds are done, a power abides, transferred from sire to son," is fittingly portrayed in the decorative frieze illustrating the buildings of the early settlers. From the house of Count Le Ray Chaumont to the La Farge Mansion we have records of the families which have made the history of this section. Passing through a small room devoted to the clergy, we enter a spacious apartment in which we find the buildings of Old Watertown: the State Arsenal, the first corn-mill, the Merchants' Exchange, the old Coffeen House, and, leaving "Old Watertown," the visitor passes through a small room for the use of the medical profession, and enters the last of this series which is devoted to the uses of the Historical Society. Again the delicate scheme of color is relieved by a decorated frieze containing buildings and historic places. Here are the buildings erected by Elisha Camp and Commodore Woolsey. Here is a monument to the unknown soldiers of Watertown and vicinity who were killed in 1812. Here also will be found recorded on canvas, the Madison Barracks, Fort Pike, Sacketts Harbor, and the old ship house, where the ships were built that fought so gallantly on the lakes.

Thus the three rooms described reserved for the "D. A. R.," "Old Watertown," and the "Historical Society," have been most interestingly schemed in friezes, a historical record which is distinctly personal to the city of Watertown and Jefferson County. In no building that we are familiar with has such a definite article of sequence been given artistic form, and Mr. Lamb is to be congratulated upon establishing in this work, which is the artistic handiwork of the brothers Leon and Scott Dabo, a principle which can worthily be followed by other civic buildings that are already erected or about to be erected in other parts of the country.

Rotunda

It is needless to say that the main decorative effect has been reserved for the rotunda, simple and massive in its architecture, beautiful and harmonious in its color. In its combination of marble, gold, and pigment, it stands the central and most attractive feature of this most interesting building. The marble and bronze of the lower part are left rigid in their simplicity, the heavy moldings at the base of the dome are perfectly simple in their color, and the richness of the scheme is concentrated in the dome above.

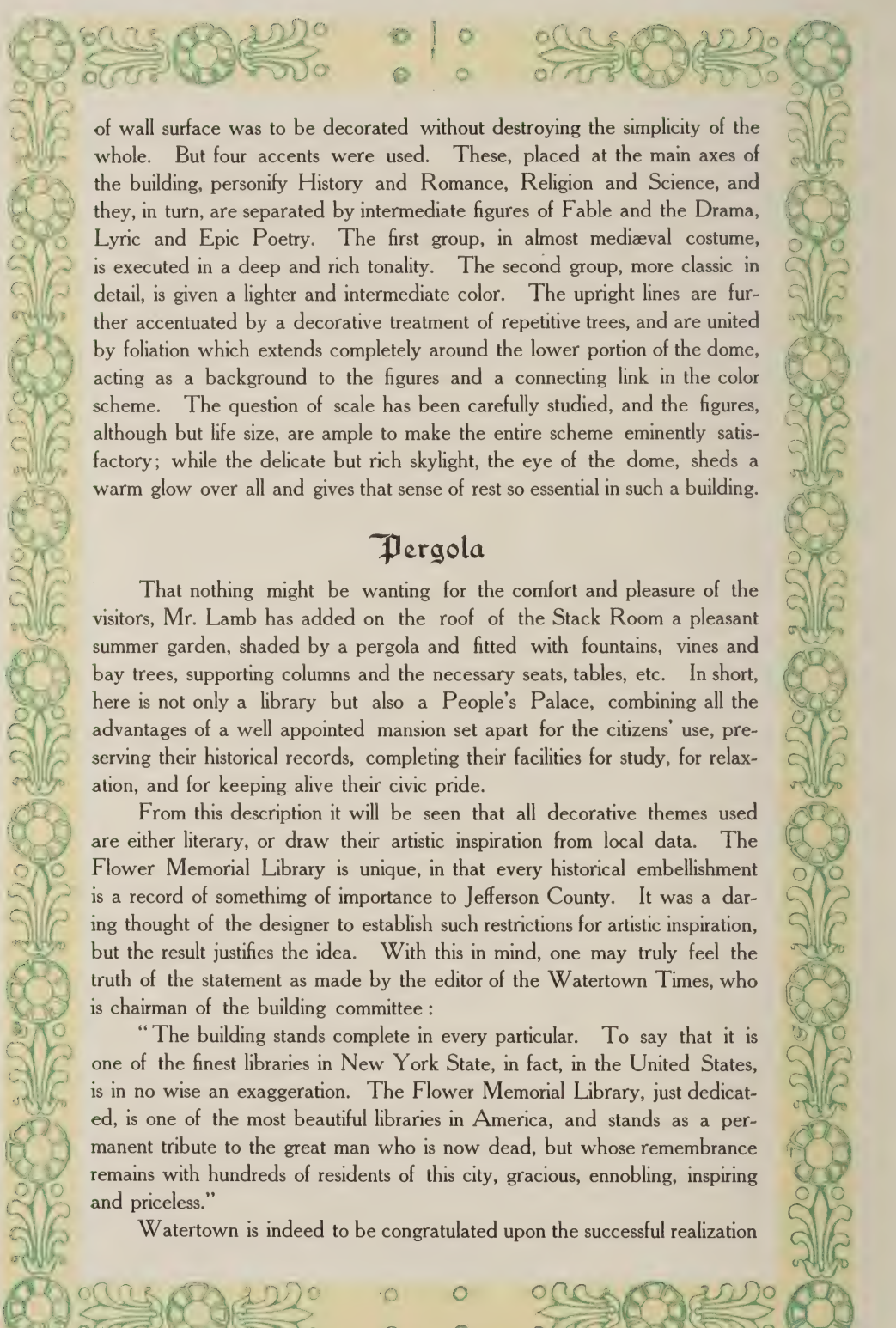
Here, a problem of no small difficulty met the designer: a great expanse



MURAL PAINTING, SOUTH STAIRCASE HALL

GEORGE W. BRECK

The first public commemoration of the Declaration of Independence in Jefferson County was held at Independence Point, July 4, 1802. A patriotic demonstration and reminiscences of the Revolution characterized the celebration of the day.



of wall surface was to be decorated without destroying the simplicity of the whole. But four accents were used. These, placed at the main axes of the building, personify History and Romance, Religion and Science, and they, in turn, are separated by intermediate figures of Fable and the Drama, Lyric and Epic Poetry. The first group, in almost mediæval costume, is executed in a deep and rich tonality. The second group, more classic in detail, is given a lighter and intermediate color. The upright lines are further accentuated by a decorative treatment of repetitive trees, and are united by foliation which extends completely around the lower portion of the dome, acting as a background to the figures and a connecting link in the color scheme. The question of scale has been carefully studied, and the figures, although but life size, are ample to make the entire scheme eminently satisfactory; while the delicate but rich skylight, the eye of the dome, sheds a warm glow over all and gives that sense of rest so essential in such a building.

Pergola

That nothing might be wanting for the comfort and pleasure of the visitors, Mr. Lamb has added on the roof of the Stack Room a pleasant summer garden, shaded by a pergola and fitted with fountains, vines and bay trees, supporting columns and the necessary seats, tables, etc. In short, here is not only a library but also a People's Palace, combining all the advantages of a well appointed mansion set apart for the citizens' use, preserving their historical records, completing their facilities for study, for relaxation, and for keeping alive their civic pride.

From this description it will be seen that all decorative themes used are either literary, or draw their artistic inspiration from local data. The Flower Memorial Library is unique, in that every historical embellishment is a record of something of importance to Jefferson County. It was a daring thought of the designer to establish such restrictions for artistic inspiration, but the result justifies the idea. With this in mind, one may truly feel the truth of the statement as made by the editor of the Watertown Times, who is chairman of the building committee :

"The building stands complete in every particular. To say that it is one of the finest libraries in New York State, in fact, in the United States, is in no wise an exaggeration. The Flower Memorial Library, just dedicated, is one of the most beautiful libraries in America, and stands as a permanent tribute to the great man who is now dead, but whose remembrance remains with hundreds of residents of this city, gracious, ennobling, inspiring and priceless."

Watertown is indeed to be congratulated upon the successful realization



BATTLE OF
SACKETTS
HARBOR
H. PEABODY FLAGG

NORTH MEZZANINE HALL

BATTLE OF SACKETTS HARBOR, JULY 19, 1812.

"Lieutenant Woolsey, who had taken charge of the shore defences, caused a 32-pound cannon, which had been discarded from his brig, the Oneida, as it was of too heavy calibre, to be mounted on a pivoted carriage upon a mound commanding the harbor, placing it under the direction of Sailing Master William Vaughan.

"When the British demanded the surrender of the port they were refused and a shot from this gun, the first one fired in the war, began the battle. The Americans lacked 32-pound shot for their cannon, but used 24-pound balls wrapped in pieces of carpet. For two hours the British ships stood on and off the harbor, keeping up a desultory fire, until a well directed shot from the 32-pounder raked the flag ship, the Royal George, fore and aft, killing eight men and wounding many others. This brought the engagement to an end; and the British commander made all sail for Kingston, abandoning the attempt to capture the port, which the Royal George alone, well manned and appointed, might easily have accomplished."

on the part of the donor of her ideals in the building thus described, for it is in truth a noble memorial to the man whom Watertown is glad to honor, and of whom the dedicatory inscription in permanent bronze says :

"I make this gift in loving memory of my father, to perpetuate his name and love of progress and to benefit those who delight in knowledge. The City of Watertown, as a condition of this gift, agrees to devote not less than five thousand dollars annually to the care and maintenance of the premises conveyed, the library and library building now established there, and all parts and departments of which shall always be known as the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library."

ROTUNDA

Figures by Fred'k Stymetz Lamb

HISTORY

Herodotus Gibbon

FABLE

La Fontaine Aesop

EPIC POETRY

Homer Dante

RELIGION

St. John Moses N

DOME

S Darwin Newton

SCIENCE

LYRIC

Milton Virgil

DRAMA

Shakespeare Moliere

ROMANCE

Scott Dumas

Inscription on the Frieze under the Dome :

"TO KNOW WISDOM AND INSTRUCTION,
TO PERCEIVE THE WORDS OF UNDERSTANDING."



BATTLE OF
LAKE ERIE
H. PEABODY FLAGG

SOUTH MEZZANINE HALL

BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE, SEPTEMBER 10, 1813.

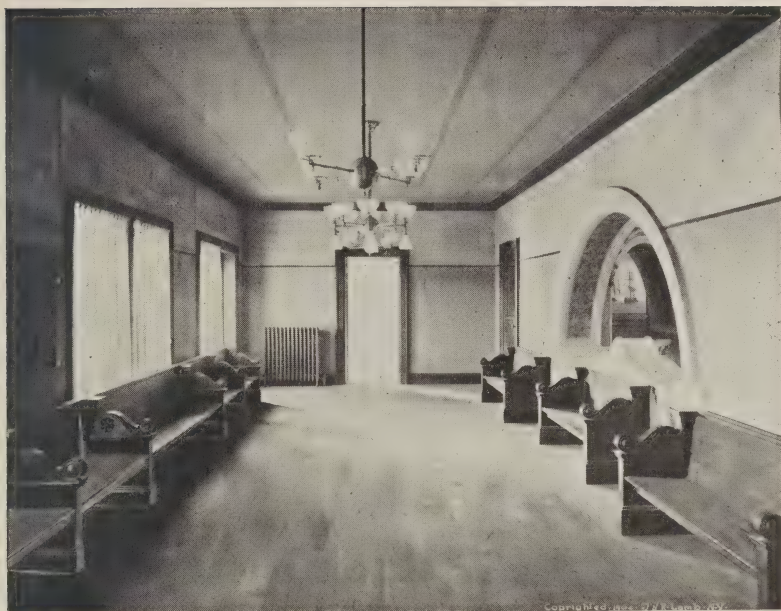
"At forty-five minutes past two the British endeavored to swing around so as to bring fresh broadsides into play, but in so doing their line became broken and entangled. Seeing the Niagara coming down to close quarters, Provincial Lieutenant Irvine, on whom the command of the Queen Charlotte had devolved, determined to pour a broadside into her, and then board, but his plan was frustrated by the sudden failing of the wind, which just before had been fresh. At this moment a shot carried away a down-haul of one of the sails, which left her at the mercy of the wind, which again rose suddenly, and she ran foul of the Detroit and became entangled with her. The Niagara now gave the signal for 'close action,' backed her main-topsails, and, running across the bow and stern of the two English ships, raked them fore and aft with her starboard broadside. The effect of this fire at such close quarters was dreadful. The storm of iron swept along the decks of the enemy, tearing ghastly chasms through the crowds of officers and men."



D. A. R. ROOM



HISTORICAL
SOCIETY ROOM



OLD
WATERTOWN
ROOM



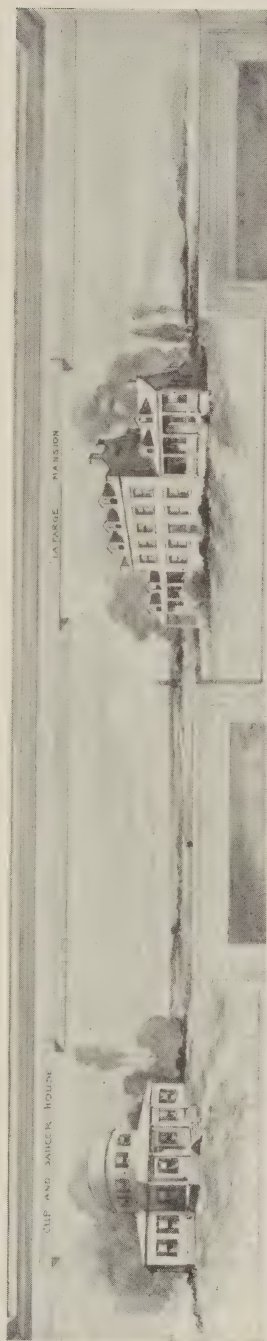
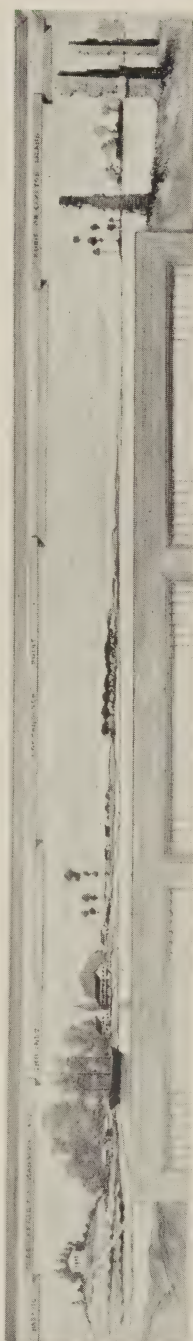
ROOF GARDEN
AND
PERGOLA
CHARLES R. JAMES



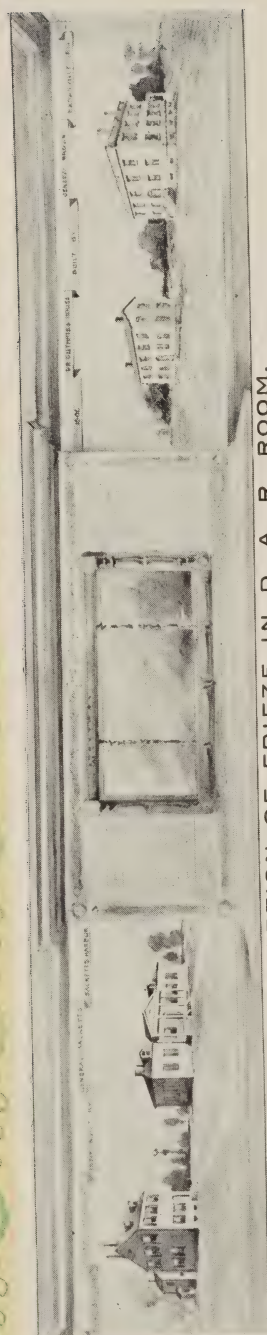
STACK ROOM OF
MAIN FLOOR



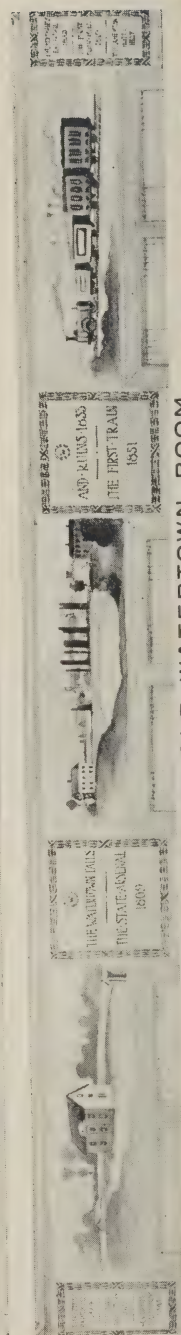
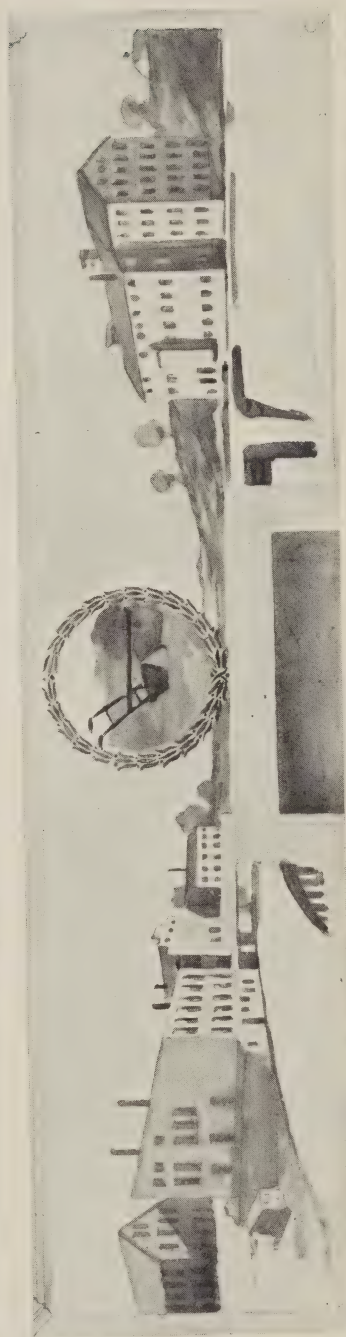
STACK ROOM
BASEMENT



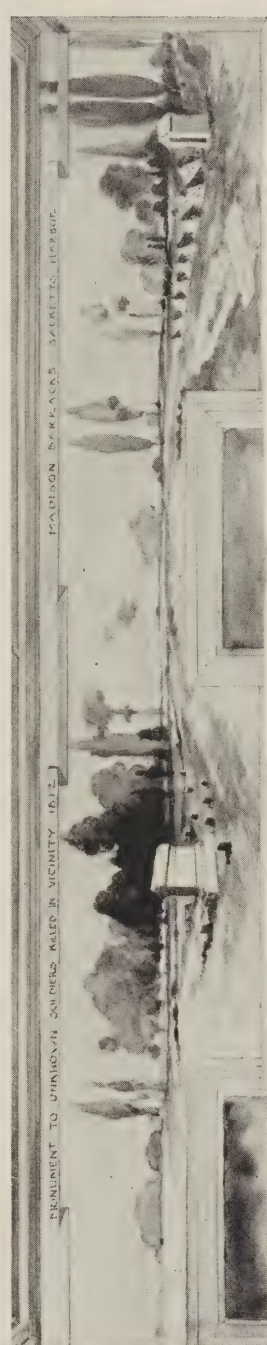
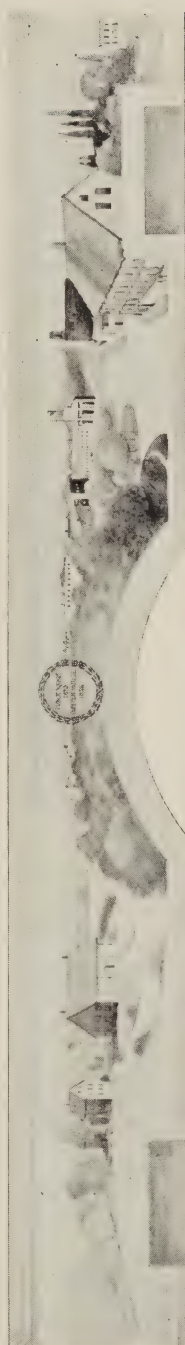
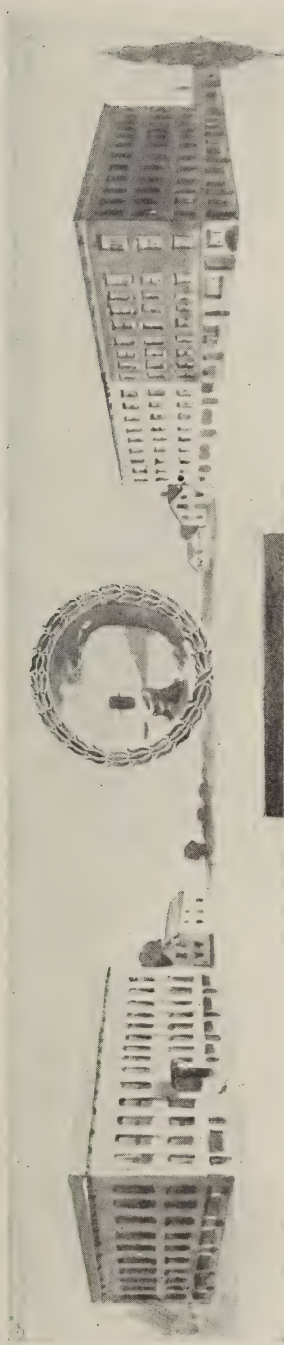
FRIEZES IN D. A. R. ROOM.



PORTION OF FRIEZE IN D. A. R. ROOM.



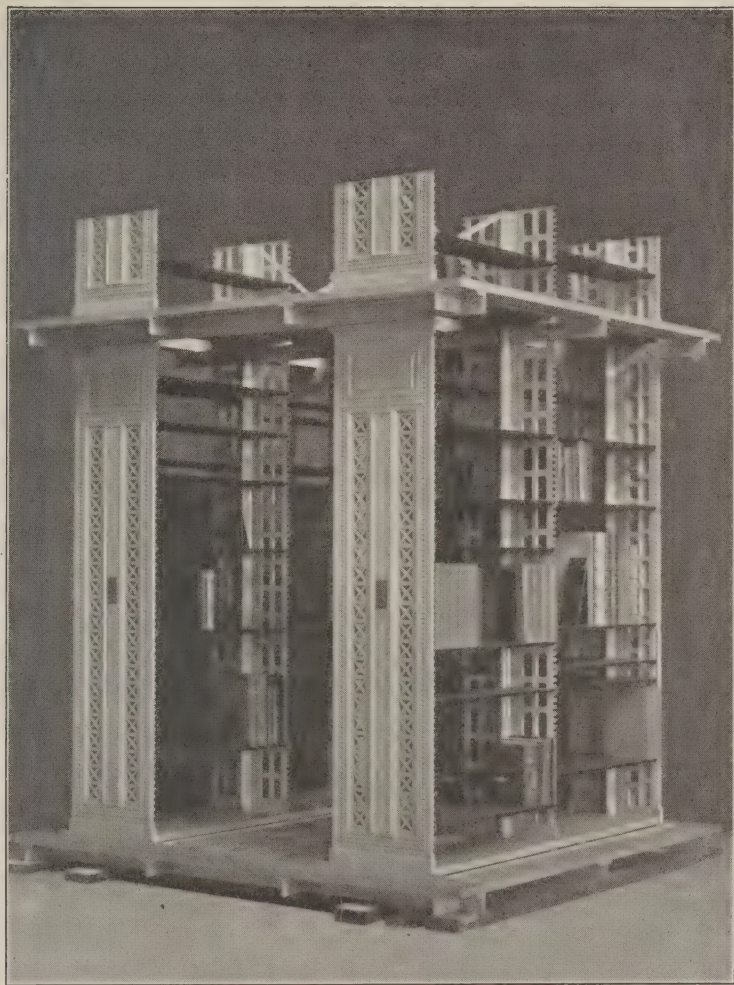
FRIEZES IN OLD WATERTOWN ROOM.



FRIEZES IN OLD WATERTOWN ROOM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY ROOM.



FRIEZES IN HISTORICAL SOCIETY ROOM.



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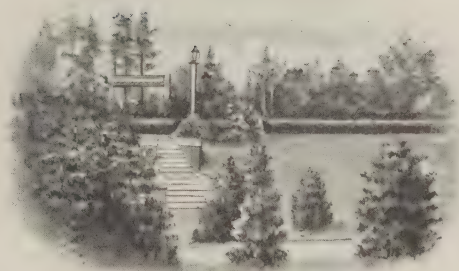
Corning, N. Y.

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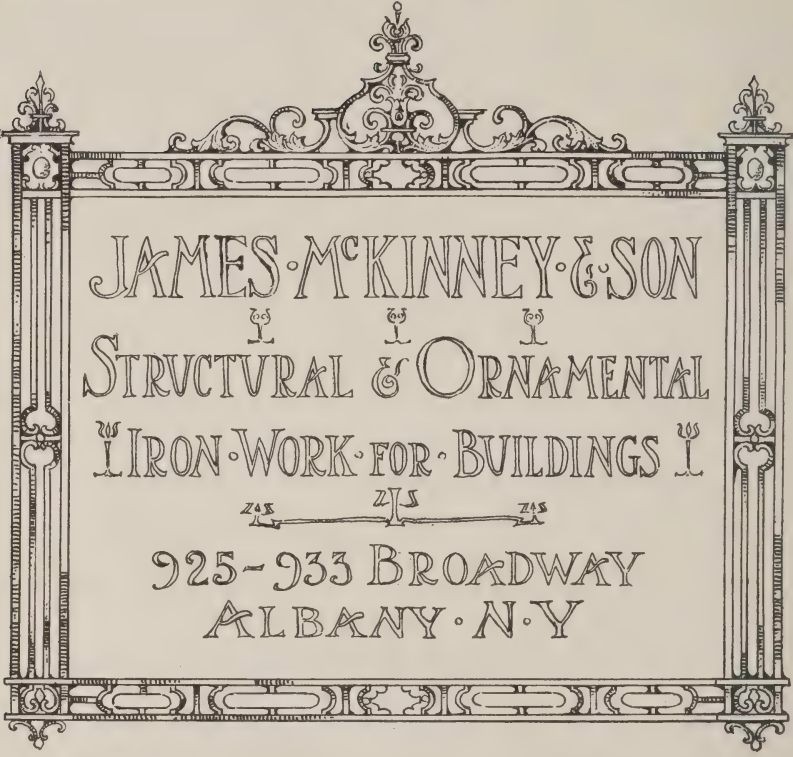
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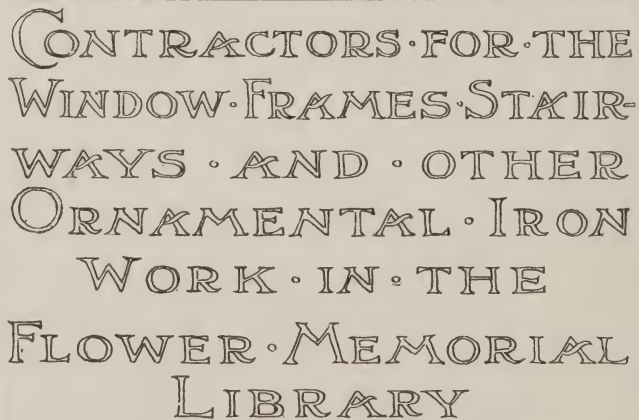
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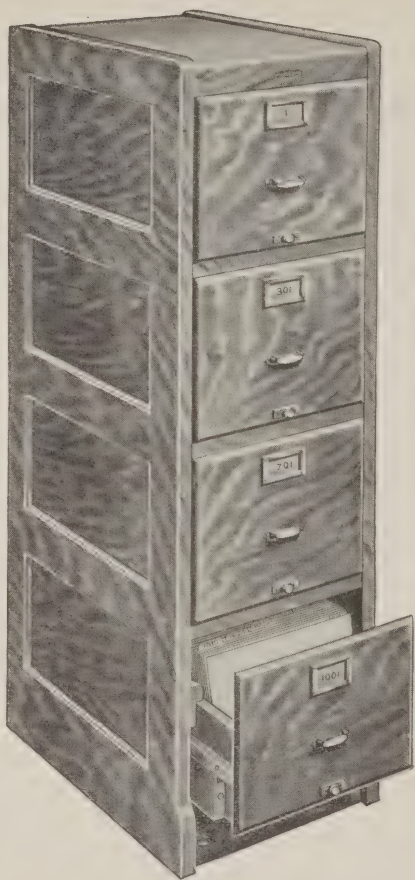
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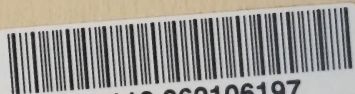


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